Appl. No. 09/703,549
Amdt. dated July 18, 2003
Reply to Office action dated April 23, 2003

Attorney ref: 119/1

**Amendments to the Claims:**

Please amend claims 1-3, 20, 21, 23, 26, 29-31, 42 and 43, cancel claim 44 and

add claim 45 as follows. For the Examiner's convenience, a full set of amended claims is

included in a separate section following the remarks.

1.      (twice amended)  A system for engaging in commercial transactions, comprising:

filter means for accepting filter conditions from <u>RFQs from</u> buyers and <u>quotes from</u>

sellers;

a plurality of [buyers] <u>buyer information</u> conforming to a seller defined class of

[buyers] <u>buyer information, said buyer information representing buyers</u> for communicating

RFQs to said filter means, <u>said RFQs being broadcast to terminals to be received by</u>

<u>sellers subject to said filter conditions</u>;

a plurality of [sellers] <u>seller information representing sellers</u> conforming to a buyer

defined class of sellers for communicating quotes to said filter means in response to a

specific RFQ of said RFQs, said filter means including means for determining, based upon

said filter conditions, which sellers should receive RFQs from a buyer and to which RFQs

should the sellers respond.


2.      (twice amended) A method of utilizing a data network for advertising and selling

items including the steps of:

communicating, to centralized filter means, from a plurality of sellers, information

indicating items offered for sale to at least one seller defined class of buyers to receive the

information;

communicating, to the centralized filter means, from a potential buyer, a category of

item in which said buyer is interested and a buyer defined class of sellers to receive the

information;

using said centralized filter means to match buyer and seller classes;

[communicating] <u>broadcasting</u> the information from said class of buyers to said

buyer defined class of sellers; and

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communicating an offer for sale from at least one of said sellers for at least one item in said category of items indicated, to a buyer if said buyer is within said class and said items are within said category.

3.    (twice amended) A method for effectuating a purchase between a buyer conforming to a seller defined class of buyers and a seller selected from a plurality of sellers conforming to a buyer defined class of sellers over a computer communications network wherein information from said buyer for initiating effectuation of said purchase is broadcast over said communications network to said plurality of sellers, comprising the steps of:

providing over said network a page including information of each of a plurality of seller's offers and at least one hypertext link for said buyer to make a response;

displaying said hypertext link containing page to said buyer; and

sending a purchase request by said buyer to [said] selected seller of said plurality of sellers clicking on said hypertext link.

20.    (twice amended) A method of effectuating a purchase between a buyer and a seller over a computer communications network, comprising the steps of:

defining a class of buyers;

defining a class of sellers;

[providing] broadcasting credit information of at least one buyer of said class of buyers [said buyer] to [a] at least one seller of said class of sellers [seller];

providing broadcasting over said computer communications network, from one or more sellers of said class of sellers to one or more buyers of said class of buyers [said buyer], a page including information of each seller's offer and at least one hypertext link for [said] each buyer to make a response;

displaying each said hypertext link containing page to [said] each buyer;

selecting one of said one or more sellers;

sending a purchase request by [said] each buyer to the selected seller by clicking on said hypertext link; and

fulfilling said purchase request from [said] each buyer.

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21.     (twice amended) The method of claim 20 wherein said server is maintained by a central processing unit remotely located and accessible by <u>each buyer</u> [said buyer] and <u>each seller</u> [said seller] through said network.

23.     (twice amended) The method of claim 20 wherein said step of displaying is carried out by said <u>each</u> seller.

26.     (twice amended) The method of claim 20 wherein at said step of sending said purchase request is directly sent to said <u>each</u> seller.

29.     (twice amended) The method of claim 28 wherein said step of fulfilling comprises a step of clearing credit of said <u>each</u> buyer directly by said <u>each</u> seller.

30.     (twice amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said step of fulfilling comprises a step of clearing credit of said <u>each</u> buyer by said central processing unit.

31.     (twice amended) A computerized system for effectuating a purchase [between] <u>involving a request for offers by</u> a buyer conforming to a seller defined class of [buyers] <u>requests for offers</u> and <u>an offer by</u> a seller selected from a plurality of potential [sellers] <u>offers</u> conforming to a buyer defined class of [sellers] <u>offers, said request for offers being broadcast and said plurality of potential offers being transmitted</u> over a communications network, comprising:

means for each of said plurality of potential [sellers] <u>offers</u> to provide a page including information of at least one offer and at least one hypertext link for said buyer to make a response;

means for said seller to transmit at least one said hypertext link containing page to said buyer;

means for said buyer to receive and display said at least one hypertext link containing page; and

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means for said buyer to click on a selected one of said at least one hypertext link to send a purchase request in response to said offer.

42.    (twice amended) A method of enabling a buyer conforming to a seller defined class of buyers to purchase an item over a communications network from a remote system, the method comprising the steps of:

selecting a hypertext link indicative of a desire to place an electronic purchase order;

in response to said step of selecting, [transmitting] broadcasting at least one electronic purchase order to [a] at least one seller conforming to a buyer defined class of sellers; and

in response to said step of transmitting, providing credit information of the buyer maintained at said remote system to complete the purchase of said item.

43.    (amended) [A] The method of claim 42, further [enabling a buyer to purchase an item over a communications network from a remote system, the method] comprising the steps of:

[selecting a hypertext link indicative of a desire to place an electronic purchase order;]

in response to said step of selecting, verifying that the buyer conforms to a seller defined class of buyers and has sufficient credit to make the intended purchase; and

in further response to said step of selecting, transmitting electronically credit verification information and at least one purchase order to the seller.

44.    (canceled)

45.    (new) The method of claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

prestoring credit information of a buyer, and

in response to selection of a hyperlink by a buyer indicating a purchase, matching said prestored information with said buyer to complete said purchase.